Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development)*: The urgency is to continue the work. It is considered to be a very good work by the very people who raised objections at the very beginning.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: At present we shall be satisfied with what is going on at Kunnamkulam and Vadakkancheri.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development)*: It is a matter of opinion. Government think that this work should be continued. As a matter of fact, in two places the request came from the people themselves.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South)*: Which are the two places?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development)*: Pazhanji and Trippunittura.

Demand put and carried

3. Rs. 2,940 under "24—Public Health—A 3—Rural Sanitation—supplies and services—charges for epidemics"

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development)*: Sir, I move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 2,940 under "24—Public Health—A 3—Rural Sanitation—supplies and services—charges for epidemics." As this House is aware there has been sporadic out-break of small-pox in various parts of the State. We have to engage additional staff and indent for large quantities of medicine. The expenditure incurred is much higher than what was anticipated. Therefore, this additional grant is asked for. As a matter of fact even now in certain localities near Trippunittura the situation is rather in a serious condition and we have to take strong measures to combat the disease.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South)*: Does the Hon'ble Minister refer to the cost of lymph? Then it is No. 4. Now we are on item No. 3.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development)*: Oh! I am sorry. The explanation which I just now gave is for the 4th item. I beg to be corrected. This amount is for adopting preventive measures with regard to the out-break of plague in Mattancheri.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: Is there any plague in Mattancheri?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development)*: There has been no human attack, but there were three or four rat-falls.

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Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether any test was applied and found positively that there are plague germs in the rats?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* The rats were examined and it was certified that they were positive.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* How long is it now after the last rat was examined?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* About 20 days or may be nearly a month.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Within this one month has there been any human attack?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* No.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* And before that?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* No. Rat-falls began two months ago, but there has never been a single case of human attack. However, we thought it safer to take precautionary measures.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* If there is no case of human attack for the last one year, why should we spend unnecessarily?

Mr. President: Even if there are only rat-falls, we should take preventive measures.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* I am not against your taking any preventive measures. What I am trying to find out is, in spite of all these rat-falls that have been reported from time to time and which have been examined and found sometimes positive and sometimes negative, we have never had any plague following the rat-falls.

Mr. K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur):* It is due to the preventive measures taken by Government.

Mr. President: You are making it a grievance! *(Laughter)*

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* I have no grievance. But people have got grievance that these restrictions are being unnecessarily imposed on the town and it is worrying them. Therefore there is a complaint. I have no complaint to your taking any measures to prevent plague from coming into this land, although there is the side who say that plague has never come here and will never come. We are unsuited for plague. This has been the experience of people who have been here for long years. For the first time, when Sir T. Vijayaraghavachariar was here as Diwan, the plague idea came out. Then, there were persons who said that the plauge was not in

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the land but in the Secretariat. And experience has shown that there was no epidemic of plague anywhere in the State. Subsequently also similar episodes have taken place and we find that there is no plague at all so far as human beings are concerned. When statistics were taken it was found out that for 19 years, or from 1919 to this date there were about 38 cases altogether of which many were suspects. There are only one or two deaths on the average in a year and for several years together there are none at all. We are taking all these precautions still. I have no objection to your preventing plague from ever coming into this land. I am glad of it. I will support the demand now made. But what I am saying is that if there is no fear amidst the people regarding the plague and if there are no human attacks and that there are only one or two occasional rat-falls, what is the use of this unnecessary expenditure? God alone knows what kind of scientific examination is made by the experts, and whether similar kinds of germs exist. Our staff here are unable to say. Sometimes other kinds of germs may also look like plague germs. Therefore, to burden the taxpayers with all this expenses and dislocate the trade and inconvenience the merchants by cyanogassing and other processes and putting the people to worry and annoyance is a thing which Government must take serious notice of. From the point of view of public health the plague has never, in spite of forebodings, ever taken the shape of an epidemic in Cochin.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* Do you oppose or support the motion?

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* I will of course support my Minister's motion. I am only saying that the Government may kindly take note of all these things, while we give you the money. Don't spend it unnecessarily. Please see whether it is absolutely necessary or not. Government need not be shaken by this fear as often as they have been in the past and need not be afraid of any plague coming into this soil.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether if no preventive measures are adopted rats affected by this plague bacilli will gradually develop and get into the human system?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes, that is the idea. Normally it will affect human beings if no preventive measures are taken.

Mr. President: It is because of the very radical and timely measures that we take that we have been able to check the plague.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* According to international convention, if there are any rat-falls as a

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result of plague, the Government are bound to take necessary measures. I entirely subscribe to the opinions expressed by my hon'ble friend, Mr. Salem, that in all these years, there has never been a serious epidemic. It may be due to the measures we have taken, or due to other causes; I am not prepared to say. But the fact remains, if there is a rat-fall, we are bound to take necessary measures according to international convention. As a matter of fact it has been brought to my notice that rat-falls did take place in Alleppey and we are in communication with the Government of Travancore to take necessary measures by themselves or, if that is not done these measures will be undertaken by us. We are expecting a reply immediately. Therefore you see that it is not confined to one Government or to one locality. It is a general convention.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* On a point of information, it is generally stated that persons who make use of cocoanut oil will not be seriously affected by plague.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I do not know anything about it. I am not going to express an opinion on that.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know, Sir, from the Hon'ble Minister as to whether any such measures have been adopted in British Cochin which lies contiguous to Mattancheri?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* The idea here is to control export and import mainly. These exports and imports pass through Mattancheri and not British Cochin. Any goods infected from here may carry plague bacilli to Bombay or other places. We want to control that. Unless it be that there is a general outbreak of plague in Mattancheri and there is a general infection taking place, there is no necessity for British Cochin to tackle this problem.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* All the goods that come by steamers are to pass through British Cochin Customs. They are landed at the Customs before distribution.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* It is only for the purpose of inspection. They are not distributed. Goods are not allowed to be taken in from there.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* No similar measures are taken when they are exported from the firms in British Cochin.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* In both the cases the goods come again under our supervision and we cyanogass them. I may assure the House that the moment we think

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there is no danger we will stop it. I perfectly agree that it is causing inconvenience to the merchants and other people. All such considerations must be subordinated to the major consideration of protecting the general public from plague.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഇസ്മായിൽ ഹാജി ഈസാ സേട്ട് : ഇപ്പോൾ ഇവിടെ പ്ലേഗിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ച പ്രിവെൻറീവ് മെഷർസ് എടുക്കുന്നുണ്ടല്ലൊ. കൊച്ചിയിൽ പ്ലേഗുണ്ടോ എന്നുള്ള കാര്യത്തിൽ തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ഗവൺമെണ്ടു വല്ല എഴുത്തുകുത്തുകളും എഴുതി അയച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ ?

ഡോക്ടർ എ. ആർ. മേനോൻ : ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി ഞങ്ങൾ കേട്ടിട്ടുള്ള മാതിരി അവരും കേട്ടിരിക്കും. അങ്ങിനെ വല്ല എഴുത്തുകുത്തുകളും അയച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടാകും.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഇസ്മായിൽ ഹാജി ഈസാ സേട്ട് : കൊച്ചിയിൽ പ്ലേഗുണ്ടോ എന്നുള്ളതിനെപ്പറ്റി തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ഗവൺമെണ്ടിൽ നിന്നും എഴുതി ചോദിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ ?

ഡോക്ടർ എ. ആർ. മേനോൻ : ഇല്ല. റാറ്റ് ഫാമിസ് ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടോ എന്ന് എഴുതി ചോദിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇവിടെ ഒരു എലി ചത്തു വീണപ്പോൾ ഇനി ഒന്നു കൂടി ചത്തുവീഴുന്നുണ്ടോ എന്നു നോക്കട്ടെ, എന്നു വിചാരിച്ച് അതിലേക്കു കുറച്ചു സമയം കൊടുത്തു. രണ്ടാമതും വീണപ്പോൾ മൂന്നാമതും വീഴുന്നുണ്ടോ എന്നു നോക്കി. മൂന്നാമതും വീണു എന്നു കണ്ടിട്ടാണ് പ്രിവെൻറീവ് മെഷർസ് എടുത്തു തുടങ്ങീട്ടുള്ളതായി എഴുതിയയച്ചതു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഇസ്മായിൽ ഹാജി ഈസാ സേട്ട് : നാലാമതും റാറ്റ് ഫാമിസ് ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടോ ?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development)*: Altogether I think there were about five during this period.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഇസ്മായിൽ ഹാജി ഈസാ സേട്ട് : റാറ്റ്ഫാമിസ് ക്രൂന്നതിനുവേണ്ടി സൈനോഗാസിംഗ്രം വഛിപ്പിക്കുവാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ ?

ഡോക്ടർ എ. ആർ. മേനോൻ : ഉവ്വ്.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഇസ്മായിൽ ഹാജി ഈസാ സേട്ട് : അതിന്റെ റേറ്റ് എത്രകണ്ടു വഛിപ്പിക്കുവാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നുണ്ട് ?

ഡോക്ടർ എ. ആർ. മേനോൻ : 80 ശതമാനം.

മിസ്റ്റർ പോപ്പട്ടലാൽ ഗോവഛ്നലാലൻ : സൈനോഗാസിംഗ്ര ചെയ്യാത്തതായിട്ട് പത്തു സ്വ വള്ളങ്ങളോളം ബാക്കി വരുന്നുണ്ട്.

ഡോക്ടർ എ. ആർ. മേനോൻ : അത്രയൊന്നുമുള്ളതായി റിപ്പോർട്ട് കിട്ടീട്ടില്ല. പത്തു പതിനാറു വള്ളങ്ങൾ ബാക്കിയുണ്ടെന്നു റിപ്പോർട്ടുണ്ട്.

മിസ്റ്റർ പോപ്പട്ടലാൽ ഗോവഛ്നലാലൻ : ഇന്നാലെതന്നെ വ്യ വള്ളങ്ങൾ ബാക്കി കിടപ്പുണ്ട്. ഇങ്ങിനെ വള്ളങ്ങൾ വെറുതെ കെട്ടിയിടുവാനിടവന്നാൽ കച്ചവടത്തിനു വളരെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടു നേരിടുന്നുണ്ട്.

ഡോക്ടർ എ. ആർ. മേനോൻ : അത്ര അധികം വള്ളങ്ങളുണ്ടെന്നു റിപ്പോർട്ടു ചെയ്യപ്പെട്ടിട്ടില്ല. ഫ ഒ വള്ളങ്ങൾ അധികമുണ്ടെന്നാണ് റിപ്പോർട്ട്. ഇങ്ങിനെ ബാക്കി വരുന്നതും ക്രൂടി വേഗത്തിൽ അയക്കുവാനുള്ള ടാർപളിൻ ഒന്നിച്ചു വാങ്ങി അവയേയും ഡ ര മണിക്കൂറിനുള്ളിൽ അയക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള ഏർപ്പാടു ചെയ്യാം.

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Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* How many valloms can you cyanogass a day?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* It depends upon the number of tarpaulins we have.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* How many boats can be cyanogassed at one and the same time?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Boats are covered by tarpaulins and a large number of boats can be cyanogassed if there are adequate tarpaulins available.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* How much time will it take to cyanogass a boat?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* It will take only 2 or 3 minutes.

Demand put and carried

4. Rs. 3,000 under "24—Public Health—B—Vaccination—Cost of lymph"

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Sir, I beg to move for an allotment of Rs. 3,000 under "24—Public Health—B—Vaccination—Cost of lymph." I have already explained this item. The additional grant is for vaccination purposes. I request the House to be pleased to sanction the allotment.

Demand put and carried

5. Rs. 100 under "18—Sanitation and Conservancy—Cranganur—Charges for the prevention of epidemics"

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Sir, I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 100 under "18—Sanitation and Conservancy—Cranganur—Charges for the prevention of epidemics." This grant is for the same purpose in Cranganur.

Demand put and carried

6. Rs. 150 under "17—(1) Central Jail—Uniforms"

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* Mr. President Sir, I rise to move for an additional grant of Rs. 150 under "17—(1) Central Jail—Uniforms." The grant is necessitated by a change in the personnel of the Superintendent. The ceremonial uniform which fitted his predecessor is found too small for him and hence the necessity for the additional allotment. I request the House may be pleased to grant the allotment.

Demand put and carried

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